

NOT FAR BUT NOT IN

"AND WHEN JESUS SAW THAT HE ANSWERED DISCREETLY, HE SAID
UNTO HIM, THOU ART NOT FAR FROM THE KINGDOM OF GOD"

(MARK 12:34)

The charge Christ has given his pastors is *"Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins"* (Isaiah 40:1-2) But we are not to comfort anyone who does not yet believe on the Lord Jesus Christ. The worst thing in the world would be to go to hell calling God our Father when we have not bowed the knee to Christ! The person to whom Christ spoke these words was very near. But Christ told him the truth. He did not say, "Thou art in the kingdom of God" but *"Thou art not far from the kingdom of God."*

Perhaps, some here are not far from the kingdom of God. But *not far* is *not in*. May God comfort us in the assurance of faith when we truly believe on Christ. But if there be any who are not truly resting in Christ, may God make them see their need of truly believing on Christ. It is not enough to meet Christ standing as near as the threshold of faith. We must enter Christ the Door through faith in him. We must believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thereby enter the kingdom of God.— CLAY CURTIS

CALENDAR 2019 / 2020

UP COMING EVENTS

Fellowship Luncheon **Dec 1st**

Grace Conference **Feb 21, 22, 23**
Donnie Bell, Don Fortner

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

bookshelf.sovereigngrace.us
Useless Kinds of Religion, J.C. Ryle
Spiritual Autobiography, Joseph Hart
Prodigal Blessing Joseph Hart, J.A. Kingham
"Prove all things..." / "Examinadlo todo..."

librero.iglesiadegracia.us
Artículos de Gracia 2018, Joseph D Murphy
Las ovejas oyen la Voz, Cody Groover
Inmundo o Santo, Joseph D Murphy

If the Lord puts it on your heart, visit us and *"Come and see"* / Si el Señor quiere, *"Ven y ve"*

Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God (HEBREWS 3:12)



WELCOME

Sinners are welcome at our church. We are a local body of the Lord Jesus Christ. As you spend time with us, you'll soon discover we're an *imperfect* church, with an *imperfect* pastor, yet by God's underserved grace, we preach, believe, and know the *perfect* gospel of our never failing Lord Jesus Christ. Reader, we call His name JESUS for HE SHALL (not might, not maybe) rather HE SHALL save His people from their sins. And beloved believing sinner you already know it — you are *complete in Him*, saved to the uttermost.

"Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners" **JOSEPH D MURPHY**, PASTOR
sinner@sovereigngrace.us | (832) 995-7925

Sunday, 10 AM
1 TIMOTHY
ENGLISH

Sunday, 11 AM
PSALMS
ENGLISH

Domingo, 6 PM
ROMANOS
ESPAÑOL

Wednesday, 7 PM
ROMANS
ENGLISH

SERVICE TIMES

ENGLISH

Bible Classes **Sun, 10 AM**
Worship Service **Sun, 11 AM**
Bible Study **Wed, 7 PM**

ESPAÑOL

Servicio de Adoración **Dom, 6 PM**

AUDIO PODCASTS

AVAILABLE ON ITUNES AND GOOGLE PLAY

Purposed Grace Sermons
Purposed Grace Articles

DISPONIBLE EN ITUNES Y GOOGLE PLAY

Propósito y Gracia, Sermones
Propósito y Gracia, Artículos

NURSERY AVAILABLE FOR 4 YEARS OLD AND YOUNGER / GUARDERÍA DISPONIBLE

RECENT PODCASTS

RECENT SERMONS

Trust in the Lord (PSALM 71)
The God of Peace (ROMANS 16:17-20)
God Will Save His People (PSALM 69:1-36)

SERMONES RECIENTES

Justificado por Fe (ROM 3:24)
Cristo vino para salvar... (1 TIM 1:15)
Nacimiento Nuevo (JUAN 3:7)

DIRECTIONS

We are situated 1 mile south of the Denny's Restaurant located right by the corner of US Highway 59 and State Highway 242.

Show up early and have a cup of coffee with us! 9:30 & 10:30 AM



NOT IN VAIN

“NOW IF CHRIST BE PREACHED THAT HE ROSE FROM THE DEAD, HOW SAY SOME AMONG YOU THAT THERE IS NO RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD? BUT IF THERE BE NO RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD, THEN IS CHRIST NOT RISEN: AND IF CHRIST BE NOT RISEN, THEN IS OUR PREACHING VAIN, AND YOUR FAITH IS ALSO VAIN ”

(1 CORINTHIANS 15:12-14)

The false gospel says that not everyone Christ died for will be raised to everlasting life. They say Christ died and was risen for everybody; but...most of the people He died for will not be raised to everlasting life; to which the Lord says *“If there be no resurrection from the dead then Christ is not risen: and if Christ be not risen then our preaching is in vain, and your faith is also in vain”*. 1 Corinthians 15:13-14. You cannot have the resurrection of Christ without the assurance that everyone for whom He died will also be raised from death to life. If what they say is true, then Christ died in vain (without cause), our faith is in vain, and we are still in our sins. No, everyone Christ died for, died in Him and they were risen in Him. There is nothing vain about the death, burial and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. He accomplished exactly what He came to do, to save His people from their sins and give to them eternal life. — **GREG ELMQUIST**

THE VOICE OF THE SON OF GOD

“AND THEY THAT WERE WITH ME SAW INDEED THE LIGHT, AND WERE AFRAID;
BUT THEY HEARD NOT THE VOICE OF HIM THAT SPAKE TO ME”

(ACTS 22:9)

God is a sovereign agent; His sacred Spirit bloweth when and where it listeth; “He will have mercy on whom He will have mercy.” Saul is taken, but, as far as we know to the contrary, his fellow-travelers are left to perish in their sins. They heard a voice, a confused noise, but not the articulate voice of him that spake to Saul, and therefore remained unconverted. Thus it is now under the word preached: many, like Saul’s companions, are sometimes so struck with the outgoings of God appearing in the sanctuary [auditorium], that they even stand speechless; they hear the preacher’s voice, but not the voice of the Son of God, who, perhaps, at the same time is speaking effectually to many other hearts; this I have known often; and what shall we say to these things? O the depth of the sovereignty of God! It is past finding out. Lord, I desire to adore what I cannot comprehend. *“Even so, Father, for so it seemeth good in thy sight!”* — **GEORGE WHITEFIELD**

YOUR OWN RELATIVES THINK YOU ARE...INSANE

“THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH. THE WORLD CANNOT RECEIVE HIM,
BECAUSE IT NEITHER SEES HIM NOR KNOWS HIM”

(JOHN 14:17)

The world—that is, the world dead in sin, and the world dead in profession, men destitute of the life and power of God—must have something that it can see. And, as heavenly things can only be seen by heavenly eyes, they cannot receive the things which are invisible.

Now this explains why a religion that presents itself with a degree of beauty and grandeur to the *natural* eye will always be received by the world; while a spiritual, internal, heartfelt and experimental religion will always be rejected.

The world can receive a religion that consists of forms, rites, and ceremonies. These are things seen; beautiful buildings, painted windows, peeling organs, melodious choirs, the pomp and parade of an earthly priesthood, and a whole apparatus of ‘religious ceremony’, carry with them something that the natural eye can see and admire. The world receives all this ‘external religion’ because it is suitable to the *natural* mind and intelligible to their reasoning faculties.

But the quiet, inward, experimental, divine religion, which presents no attractions to the outward eye, but is wrought in the heart by a divine operation—the world cannot receive this—because it presents nothing that the natural eye can rest upon with pleasure, or is adapted to gratify the general idea of what religion is or should be.

Do not marvel, then, that worldly professors despise a religion wrought in the soul by the power of God. Do not be surprised if even your own relatives think you are almost insane, when you speak of the consolations of the Spirit, or of the teachings of God in your soul. They cannot receive these things, for they have no experience of them; and being such as are altogether opposed to the carnal mind, they reject them with enmity and scorn.—**J.C. PHILPOT**